

IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14 remain in the application. Claims 5 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, 8, and 13 have been amended.

2. Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to replace "DE-I" with --DI-- and "DECRYPT" with --DE-CRYPT--. Amended drawings are attached hereto.

3. The specification has been amended to correct the objected to informalities.

4. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14 are patentable over the combination of the admitted prior art in view of Sugiyama et al. (US 5,862,175, "Sugiyama").

The combination of the admitted prior art and Sugiyama fails to disclose or suggest that a receiver includes an AGC circuit having a burst clamp that operates to protect AGC components from saturating while a J pulse strikes a transmitted message to enable the receiver to recover coherence with an incoming message following the trailing edge of the J pulse, as recited by claim 1.

The combination of the admitted prior art and Sugiyama also fails to disclose or suggest burst clamping an AGC circuit in the receiver to protect AGC components from saturating while the J pulse strikes the transmitted message for enabling recovery coherence with an incoming message following the trailing edge of the J pulse, as recited by claim 8.

Neither the admitted prior art nor Sugiyama disclose or suggest these features.

5. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6, 12, and 14 are patentable over the combination of the admitted prior art in view of Sugiyama and Peil et al. (US 3,936,599, "Peil").

Claims 6, 12, and 14 depend from claim 1 or 8.

The combination of the admitted prior art, Sugiyama, and Peil fails to disclose or suggest that a receiver includes an AGC circuit having a burst clamp that operates to protect AGC components from saturating while a J pulse strikes a transmitted message to enable the receiver to recover coherence with an incoming message following the trailing edge of the J pulse, as recited by claim 1.

The combination of the admitted prior art, Sugiyama, and Peil also fails to disclose or suggest burst clamping an AGC circuit in the receiver to protect AGC components from saturating while the J pulse strikes the transmitted message for enabling recovery coherence with an incoming message following the trailing edge of the J pulse, as recited by claim 8.

As mentioned above, there is no disclosure related to these features in the admitted prior art or Sugiyama.

Peil discloses an AGC system with a clamping diode D2 that operates to prevent a large magnitude of whiter than white noise from reaching a video input. As disclosed in column 6, lines 48-59, cited by the Examiner, the diode operates to prevent the reversal of demodulator voltages, thus preventing phase reversal in the demodulator output.

This is in contrast to the present invention where a burst clamp protects AGC components from saturating in order to enable a quick recovery. The diode in Peil prevents the demodulator from

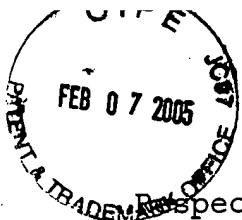
reversing phase, as opposed to protecting the AGC components from saturating. The stated purpose of Peil's diode is to prevent introduction of a large magnitude of noise into a video output. There is no disclosure related to protecting the AGC components from saturating.

At least for these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of the admitted prior art, Sugiyama, and Peil fails to render claims 6, 12, and 14 unpatentable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$1,020.00 is enclosed for a 3 month extension of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.



Respectfully submitted,

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February 3, 2005
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

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Joseph V. Gamberdell, Jr.
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